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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No.107.....

.....

68629

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:-
FO 371 / 68629

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6

FOR ASIST
PAPER

E

E 1016

2

24 JAN 1948

1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

E 1016/107/31

FROM

F.O. Minute

No.

Dated

M'burrows

Received
in Registry

21 Jan
24 -

Visit of W.F.T.U. delegation to Palestine
Letter to W.O.B. Matherian discussing
proposed visit of delegation to Palestine consisting
mainly of Communists. Asks whether visit
has been applied. Hopes that it will
be consulted before a decision is taken.

Last Paper.

994

(Minutes.)

References.

68629

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

apt. W.O.B. Matherian
60.
from M'burrows
21/1.

(Action
completed.)

J.C.H. 27/1

(Index.)

201/1/2/1/4

Next Paper.

1066

29470 F.O.P.

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JAN 24 1948
FBI - NEW YORK

FO 371/68629

COMPONENT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE
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RELATIONS OFFICE, LONDON

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

(18855) W. 15000-114 2000 247 G.S.S. Gp. 620

Registry No.

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

Draft.

Mr. Matherson,
Colonial Office.

From:
Mr. Burrows.

UN(E) Dept
a.a.
K
26.1.48

OUT
E 101 FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. 3
24th January, 1948.

24 JAN 1948

Dear Matherson,

The American Embassy have shown us a copy of a telegram from their Embassy in Paris to the effect that a party from the World Federation of Trade Unions and consisting mainly of Communist members are trying to get to Palestine to study Labour conditions there.

Could you please let us know whether ~~any such~~ visas have been applied for, ~~for any such party.~~ ^{hope} We should naturally ~~wish~~ to be consulted before a decision was taken about allowing them to go.

BAB
21.1

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OUT FILE 4

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.,

21st January, 1948.

FILE

SECRET

Dear Mathieson,

The American Embassy have shown us a copy of a telegram from their Embassy in Paris to the effect that a party from the World Federation of Trade Unions and consisting mainly of Communist members are trying to get to Palestine to study labour conditions there.

Could you please let us know whether any such visas have been applied for? We should naturally hope to be consulted before a decision was taken about allowing them to go.

(Signed) B.A.B. BURROWS.

W.A.C. Mathieson, Esq.,

Colonial Office.

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12

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 1512⁵

3 FEB 1948

Registry Number

E 1512/107/31

FROM

40 Minute
R M O Hankey

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

29 Jan

3 Feb.

Visit of W.F.T.U. Delegation to Palestine

M. Pavlov, the Soviet Ambassador telephoned to ask help in connection with the visit of a W.F.T.U. delegation to Palestine. Ambassador in Palestine will not grant visa to the interpreter M. Korneev.

Last Paper.

1407

References.

N. 1140/7/38

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

see within

(Minutes.)

JWD Feb 7

(Action completed.)

[Signature] 7/2

(Index)

[Signature] 7/2

Next Paper.

4043

29470 F.O.P.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

FO 371/68023

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Minutes.

6

E 15 F 2

3 FEB 1948

Monsieur Pavlov, the Soviet Counsellor, telephoned this afternoon to ask for our help in connexion with the visit of a W.F.T.U. delegation to Palestine. Apparently it is to consist of British, French, American and Russian representatives. The Russians have asked for visas for two persons viz. Mr. Falin and his interpreter Mr. Korneev. An interpreter is apparently necessary because Mr. Falin speaks no language but Russian.

2. Unfortunately the British authorities in Palestine have apparently instructed the British visa office in Paris that they will give a visa to Mr. Falin but only to him and not to his interpreter.

3. Mr. Pavlov said that Moscow had telegraphed pressing for a visa to be given also to M. Korneev as Mr. Falin could not very well go without him. I told M. Pavlov that I would look into the circumstances and see what could be done.

4. In actual fact, of course, Mr. Korneev will be a N.K.V.D man intended to watch Mr. Falin. It seems to me that W.F.T.U. is in practice largely under communist control and that a visit of a W.F.T.U. delegation to Palestine would undoubtedly be used by the Russians, and possibly by the staff of W.F.T.U., to make trouble for us (M. Saillant may be more or less depended on to do this) and that the refusal of a visa to Korneev is likely to make it impossible for M. Falin to go at all (since the Soviets would not trust him alone). This is an excellent way of preventing the Russians from participating and probably preventing the W.F.T.U. delegation from going at all. However, I pass this question to those who are dealing with it. The only thing is, that I have promised M. Pavlov an early reply.

RMA Hanky

29th January, 1948.

Eastern Department.

Mr. Gee.

Copy sent to Passport Control Dept. Mr Rux.

Northern Dept informed by telephone
to-day that Jerusalem maintains

/their

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Minutes.

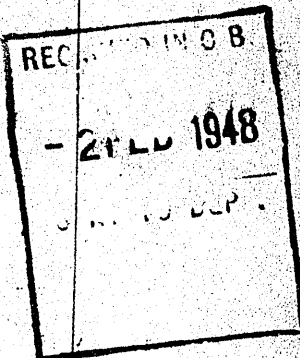
refused to give the interpreter a visa,
stating ^{for public} explanation that they can
provide an interpreter themselves.

H. B. Kelly 31/1

Northern Dept.

M. Pavlov has been informed.
see N 1140/7/38 attached.

C. A. Lee
4/2



NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE				
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1948

E

E 5905

PALESTINE

7 MAY 1948

Registry Number E5905/107/31

FROM Foreign Office Minute

No. Mr. Balfour
Dated 7th May
Received in Registry 7th

Austrian Passports for Otto and Johanna Morgenstern.

Austrian Legation have requested Foreign Office to convey to the agent of the Austrian Government in Tel Aviv, an envelope containing two Austrian passports for Otto and Johanna Morgenstern. Mr. Marriott is being asked to forward these.

Last Paper

5128

(Minutes)

References

(Print)

(How discussed at)

Mr. Marriott
forwarded
from Mr. Balfour
1. May
Mr. W. Wodak
Austrian Legation
12. May
Mr. V. ...
from Mr. Balfour 12/6

(Action completed)

(Index)

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E6686

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FO 371/...

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DB 7/5

Mr. P. W. Victor ... to Mr. Balfour 20/4

DB 15/1

Minutes.

8

Private mail for Mr. MARRIOTT was sent to CAIRO by Air Freight bag from early May to May 27th. when a separate bag for HAIFA was made up.

During the earlier part of April (up to approx April 24th) letters had been sent to the Colonial Office for transmission by that Department, and we do know from a complaint received from Mr. MARRIOTT'S son (Mr. J. P. MARRIOTT of 12, Stoneygate Avenue, LEICESTER) that certain correspondence was returned to the sender, (presumably by the Colonial Office) After April 24th. letters were held here pending the despatch in May mentioned above.

No record is made of individual private letters. We can, however, say that all mail, both private and official, received in the Outward Bag Room was duly forwarded when we were given instructions to commence the service to HAIFA.

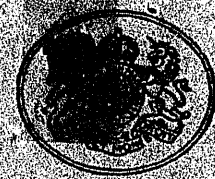
R. J. Hogan
R. J. HOGAN
17th. June, 1948.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371 / 68629

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9

British Consulate General,
Haifa.
3rd June, 1948.

26/7/1.

Dear Balfour,

Dr.M.Seidmann of 36, Jehuda Halevy,
Tel Aviv, has acknowledged receipt of the
passports of Mr. and Mrs.Morgenstern.

Is it too much to ask you in connect-
ion with the postscript to your letter to find
out for me how correspondence was sent to me
during the last half of April? A number of
private letters (including bills!) I know to
be missing and there may, of course, be of-
ficial correspondence that I have not received
and know nothing about.

Yours sincerely,

MARRIOTT

E. Dym
D.Balfour, Esq.
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

GF.

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OUT FILE

10

E 5905/107/31

E 5305

Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.
7th May, 1948.

7 MAY 1948

Dear Marriott,

We have been requested by the Austrian Legation in London to convey to the Agent of the Austrian Government in Tel Aviv, by any means at our disposal, the enclosed envelope, containing two Austrian passports for Otto and Johanna Morgenstern. We understand that Mrs. Morgenstern was widowed as a result of the German occupation of Austria and that her eldest son was killed while serving in the U.S. Forces in Europe; that she and her remaining son, Otto, spent the war years in South Africa and have been in Palestine for about two years. We believe this to be a bona fide case of Austrian citizenship and that the persons concerned are harmless from our point of view.

Will you therefore, if you see no objection ^{please} do what is possible to convey the envelope to the addressee, a certain Mr. Zeitmann, who, as we are informed by Dr. Wodak, Secretary of the Austrian Legation, acts as unofficial representative of the Austrian Government for purposes of this kind.

Hoping that you have easy means of communication with Tel Aviv, and that we are not asking for anything very difficult to accomplish,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) D. BALFOUR

G.H.A. Marriott, Esq.,
H.M. Consul-General,
HAIFA.

P.S. We hope henceforward to be in more regular communication with you by bag.

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VIKTOR FURST

ARMS. FCLAD.

267 GOLDHURST TERRACE, LONDON, N.W.6 Telephone: MAIda Vale 7479

For the attention of P. Balfour Esq.
The Foreign Office,
Eastern Division,
Downing Street,
S W 1

30th April 1948.

INDEXED

Dear Sir,

Further to our telephone conversation yesterday afternoon, I received a promise from the Austrian Consulate that they would deliver to you today the passports of Mrs. Johanna Morgenstern and her son Otto, together with the covering letter which you require.

Whilst realizing that no promise has been made to me that you will be able to arrange for the safe despatch of these passports to their owners in Palestine, I should like to say how grateful I am for your willingness to help; I am stating below a few facts which will I think facilitate sympathetic consideration for my request.

The Morgenstern family have been known personally to my husband for more than fifteen years. Mrs. Morgenstern was widowed as a result of the German occupation of Austria and her eldest son, while serving with the U.S. forces, was killed in Europe. She and her remaining son Otto went to Palestine about two years ago from Swaziland, S.A., while awaiting their U.S. immigration visas. I can emphatically assure you that neither of them would wish to be involved in the present conflict as, although they are of Jewish origin, their views are infinitely removed from those held by the Jewish authorities in Palestine.

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: -
FO

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13

OUT FILE Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

E 5905/107/31 12th May, 1948.

Dear Dr. Wodak,

With reference to your recent visit to me at the Foreign Office, the envelope with its enclosures which you confided to my care, was sent by fast Foreign Service bag to our Consul-General in Haifa, Mr. Marriott, on *May 11th*. It will have gone by air through Cairo and may reach your representative in Tel Aviv within about a week, unless there is any delay in transmission between Haifa and Tel Aviv owing to local circumstances. I have no doubt that Mr. Marriott, to whom I have written, will do his best to convey the envelope to the addressee.

Yours sincerely,

A. Balguy

Dr. Walter Wodak,
Secretary,
Austrian Legation,
1, Hyde Park Gate,
S.W.7.

17

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371 / 68629					
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Registry
No. E 5905/107/53

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Restricted.
Open.

D. B.

Draft.

To:

Mr. E. Marriott,
His Majesty's
Consul General of
Haifa.

From:

Mr. D. Balfour.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

If all cases where a special bag has been made up for Haifa by the F.O., it has reached you. Eventually

All that can be said from this is that

P. O. Bag Room records show

that ~~in the~~ all official correspondence put into Cairo bags here for onward transmission to you, during the period prior to the making up of the first special Haifa bag, were certainly received by Cairo. It is for the Embassy there to check their final receipt in Haifa, and if you have any doubts you will ~~not~~ ~~consult~~ the Cairo Bag Room should be asked to examine their records.

(365) Wt. 25886/149 100m. 1/48 A.O.S.

FOREIGN OFFICE, 14

OUT FILE

24 S.W.1. 22/17
19th June, 1948.

Dear Marriott,

Thank you for your letter of June 3rd, (26/7/1). I have informed the Austrian Legation that their agent in Tel Aviv has acknowledged receipt of the passports of Mr. and Mrs. Morgenstern.

I am sorry to learn that private letters addressed to you have gone astray. I have made enquiries at the Foreign Office Bag Room, and I attach a copy of a note which they have given me on this subject. From this it would seem that any blame for irregularities in the receipt of correspondence during April must be laid on the Colonial Office.

There is no reason to believe that any official correspondence addressed to you has gone astray, but we will, of course, investigate if you have noticed any reference to previous papers which may lead you to such a conclusion.

You must have been terribly overworked, and staffing problems combined with an insufficiency of telegraphic communications have no doubt been a great strain in the last weeks. I hope things are beginning to straighten out. You will, of course, realise that at this end too we have been having a very hectic time. Harold Beeley was away from April 14th onwards in New York, and ~~has~~ ^{came} ~~been~~ ^{last week.} back with us in the last two days. For days at a stretch it has been impossible to deal with ^{any but} the most urgent matters.

Yours sincerely,

D.B.
21/6

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References -					
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19

1948

E

E 7975

16

14 JUN 1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E7975/107/31

FROM

No. J. Linton
Jewish Agency
for Palestine

Dated JL/RET

Received in Registry } 10th June
15th "Visas for Palestine.

Since the termination of the Mandate, there has been no authority in the United Kingdom which could grant visas for Palestine. Owing to number of applications received by the Jewish Agency, the "Provisional Government of Israel" has authorised Major H.I. Lee temporarily to issue entry visas.

Last Paper

7538

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

pp
17/6

(Index)

17/6

Next Paper

10158

(Minutes.)

This is presumably another of those problems which cannot be settled until there is a govt. of Palestine. Admittedly we no longer issue entry visas; but presumably we cannot recognize the right of the Jewish Agency's representative to do so. ~~On the other hand~~ We cannot stop people who wish to enter Palestine from obtaining Jewish Agency visas from Major Lee; but I think it wd. be unwise for British Passport Offices to circulate this information. I imagine there is no action to be taken on Mr Linton's letter for the time being.

T. Dept:

M. B. R. L.

This was, I think, one of the subjects of your recent discussion with Dr Goldman

Lance Thirkell, 15.6.
LANCE THIRKELL.D. Balfour
15/6

I told Dr Goldman that it was very unlikely that we could agree to B.S.S. having their passports (the property of Home) stamped in

34987

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in this way by a Jewish
representative, as this would
involve recognition. I think
the Jews will not press the
point but get round it
by giving ^{Brit} travellers a sort
of laissez-passer which
does not figure on the
passport. We cannot stop
them doing this and it
seems a reasonable solution.

Now, I think, can
we stop foreigners buying
Major Lee's wares

Jan Denis
June 16, 1966

✓
JDD
16/6

I do not think anything which
Israel may do to British passports
could imply recognition of Israel by
Israel, but I agree they ought not
to do it, and that if they do, British

Consent

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Minutes.

17

Consuls and other authorized persons or should send it.

R. Bon
31/7

Mr. Hubbert

Passport Office

We are circulating an instruction to examiners in the Passport Office in London, Liverpool & Glasgow in case British or Palestinian passports are presented bearing endorsements or visas by the "authorities of the Govt. of Israel"

O. J. Hubbert
S. D. 48

47. 9: viii

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3815 (6 LINES).
TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON."
CODES: BENTLEY'S AND MOSSE'S.

77. GREAT RUSSELL STREET
LONDON. W.C.1.

June 10th, 1948.

In reply please address the Secretary:

and quote the following Reference No.:

JL/RSt

The Chief Passport Officer,
Passport Office,
Bartmouth Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.



Dear Sir,

Since the termination of the Mandate for Palestine, there has been no authority in the United Kingdom which could grant visas to those desiring to proceed to Palestine. Applications have been received by the Jewish Agency from persons, amongst them holders of British passports, who desire to enter Israel. Included amongst those who have asked for travel facilities are journalists, business men, and wives and other relatives of Palestine residents who desire to join their families. The Provisional Government of Israel has authorised Major H.I. Lee of this Office temporarily to issue entry visas.

Major Lee is now prepared to issue visas for entry into Israel against the following payments:-

Adults - £1. 0. 0. Children under 16 - 4/-.

We should be very grateful if the above information could be made available to those concerned.

Yours faithfully,

J. L. R. St.
Political Secretary

E 18

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22

1948

E

PALESTINE

19

E 10648

12 AUG 1948

Registry Number | E10648/107/31

FROM F.O. Minute (Mr Thirkell)

No.

Dated 23 July 48

Received in Registry | 12 Aug 48

Record of a visit from Mr E.B. Taylor, ex-Palestine policeman, regarding his application for a passport to Palestine, and the 5 captured British subjects.

Mr Taylor wished Foreign Office to support his application for a passport to Palestine, as he believes he knows the man responsible for the arrest of the 5 men, and thinks he could secure their release. He stated that he knew the 5 men and believed they had been spying for the Arab Legion for at least 6 months; he himself may well have been engaged in pro-Jewish activities. It is suggested that there could be no harm in allowing Taylor to proceed to Palestine.

Last Paper

E10621

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Draft Mr Taylor from Mr Burrows Aug 11
DFT Mr Taylor Aug 18

(Minutes.)

See within:-

- 1) HM Immigration Office letter to Mr Taylor BEX 27 of 14/7
- 2) Tel from Mr Taylor to FO of 22/7
- 3) Letter from Mr Taylor to FO of 23/7
- 4) Passport Office letter to Mr Taylor COR.23748 of 23/7
- 5) Letter from Mr Taylor to FO of 24/7
- 6) Tel from Mr Taylor to FO of 24/7.
- 7) FO Minute (Mr Balfour) of 30/7
- 8) -- (Mr Burrows) of 31/7
- 9) -- (Mr Thirkell) of 29/7
- 10) -- (Mr Thirkell) of 10/8
- 11) Tel from Mr Taylor to FO of 10/8.

4. 13: viii

Draft enclosing two letters omitted from letter of August 11th.

4. 14: viii

(Action completed)

24/8.

(Index)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper

E10668

34987

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Reference:-

FO 371/68629

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Registry
No. 2.

Draft.

L. G. T.

Telegram.

JERUSALEM

No.

(Date)

Repeat to :-

~~In Clar.~~

~~Code.~~
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Files.

Copies to :-

Launce Pittell
24:vi

~~Top Secret~~
Secret.
Confidential
~~Restricted~~
Open.

Important

SECRET

W
I have been approached by ex-Palestine policeman No. 2914 2nd Sergeant Taylor, E. B., who says that he knows the Jew responsible for the arrest of the five employees of Jerusalem Electric, and thinks that if he was allowed to go to Jerusalem he could ~~and~~ ^{and} contact him ~~he~~ could secure the release of these five men.

2. Taylor, who would not give more information, said that the ex-Palestine policemen among the five ^{with} were former colleagues of his and had to his certain knowledge been guilty of the spying of which they were accused, but that he himself ~~had~~ ~~been a pro Jewish Palestine policeman and~~

had good contacts among the Jews, ~~and could therefore help them.~~ *Although Taylor does not inspire confidence,*
3. ~~While Taylor's story sounds~~ *fantastic,* I do not wish to do anything that might prejudice the chances of liberation of these five men and should be grateful if you would let me know whether you think there is anything/

Suspend F. O., 21

July 1948 .

Despatched

M.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-					
FO 371 / 68629					
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anything to be lost ^{or gained} by letting Taylor
proceed to Palestine.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Minutes.

22

10894
E 359
Handl.

~~BB~~

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Mr. Ballman
I am afraid we have not been very fair to Mr Taylor, who originally asked us for a decision as to whether we wd. help him to reach Palestine by validating his passport on the 16th July; & from whom I attach yet another reply paid telegram.

I have spoken with Mr. SCOTT of SWANMER & MAY, who has now interviewed TAYLOR, & who feels that no useful purpose wd. be served by his going out, & I think we must reply that we cannot help him at the same time expressing our regrets & apologies.

James Kirkell. 10: viii

Pa with this in above. No
wd. without diff.

J. Ballman
10/ viii

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Charges to pay _____ d.

RECEIVED

POST OFFICE TELEGRAM

No. 74

10648/107/31

OFFICE STAMP
 22 JUL 48
 SWINDON

At _____ m.

From R09

By 2896 1152 Cartmell Gn 16

At _____ m.

To _____

By 24

Dept Head Foreign Office Ldn

Request interview very urgent =

Jaylor EX P.P 10 Herne Hill.

~~Message left at BRT. 1940 asking Mr TAYLOR to ring.~~

~~but to district. 4 23:vi. Mr Taylor called - see minute~~

51-8766 MF

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form, and, if possible, the envelope. B.C.

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: **FO 371/68629**

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TAYLOR P.M.

E 10648/107/31 3

Mrs Mary Haec

10648/107/31

23/7/48

INDEXED
London SE 84

Dear Sir

25

As enough time has already been wasted, and that there will be no more delay, I should appreciate assistance in obtaining remainder of leave pay and gratuity, in all about £200, half of which should be in Palestinian currency (due to me)

I am assuming that a word from your department will be sufficient
3. To hurry the passport authorities.

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: -
FO

371 / 68629

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E 10668/107/31

10 Hana Hill. 27

21/7/48

INDEXED

Sir,

Two ways now are
open to reach Palestine
through your department
in the underground way
of the F.F.I.

Yours faithfully,

Ed. Taylor

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-
FO 371 / 68629

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Charges to pay *10642/107/POST* OFFICE TELEGRAM

RECEIVED

No. *13* 6 OFFICE STAMP

At *1031* m Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words

From *BR 12494* *10* *25. Herne Hill* *18* m

By *[Signature]* m

RP/1/ Mr J Makenah Foreign Off.
 (Palestine) Downing St

Kindly expediate reply more
 delay hies at stake
 Taylor

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form, and, if possible, the envelope

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371 / 68629

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POST OFFICE
INLAND REPAID REPLY
TELEGRAM

Affix Postage Stamps in payment of any excess charge here

Chargeable words

Counter number 29

Excess charge

For conditions of acceptance, see over

At..... M

Prefix

Handed in

SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

Actual words

To

By

BLOCK LETTERS THROUGHOUT PLEASE

ADDRESS

The particulars on the back of this form MUST be completed.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Reference:-

FO

371

/ 68629

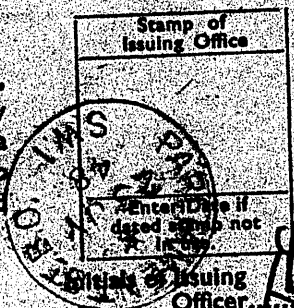
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V 809395

One Shg

REPLY VOUCHER

The charge for a reply to the value ofs.....d. having been prepaid, this form will be accepted within twelve months of the date of its issue at any Telegraph Office in payment, to the extent of its value, of a telegram or a night telegraph letter. If the form is not so used its value will be refunded to the sender of the original telegram if application is made and the form returned to the local Postmaster within twelve months.



CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

This telegram is accepted for transmission subject to the Telegraph Acts and Regulations. In particular the Postmaster General will not be liable for any loss or damage which may be incurred or sustained by reason or on account of any mistake or default in the transmission or delivery of a telegram.

*NAME AND ADDRESS OF SENDER.....
and telephone number (if any)

*NOTE: These particulars will not be telegraphed unless included in the message overleaf.

51-8145. H & Co.


A13
C

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-
FO 371 / 68629

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Charges to pay s. RECEIVED **E 106/107/31** POST  OFFICE TELEGRAM INDEXED

No. **74 11** OFFICE STAMP

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

At _____ m
 From **2.25. Home Hill 22.**
 By _____

At _____ m
 To _____
 By _____

R.P.1/- Foreign office Palestine section
 Downing St. London.
 Kindly reply yes or no as final to
 subject Taylor. Home Hill urgent please
 Taylor

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form, and, if possible, the envelope.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371 / 68629					
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POST  OFFICE
INLAND PREPAID REPLY TELEGRAM

Affix Postage Stamps in payment of any excess charge here

For conditions of acceptance, see over.

Chargeable words	Counter number 31
Excess charge	At..... M
Actual words	To
	By

Prefix	Handed in	SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS
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BLOCK LETTERS THROUGHOUT PLEASE

ADDRESS

The particulars on the back of this form **MUST** be completed.

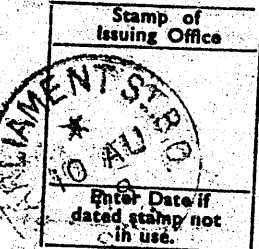
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FO 371 / 68629					
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V 809482

REPLY VOUCHER

one shilling

The charge for a reply to the value of 1.00 shillings, having been prepaid, this form will be accepted within twelve months of the date of its issue at any Telegraph Office in payment, to the extent of its value, of a telegram or a night telegraph letter. If the form is not so used its value will be refunded to the sender of the original telegram if application is made and the form returned to the local Postmaster within twelve months.



Initials of Issuing Officer *me*

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

This telegram is accepted for transmission subject to the Telegraph Acts and Regulations. In particular the Postmaster General will not be liable for any loss or damage which may be incurred or sustained by reason or on account of any mistake or default in the transmission or delivery of a telegram.

*NAME AND ADDRESS OF SENDER
and telephone number (if any)

.....
.....

*NOTE: These particulars will not be telegraphed unless included in the message overleaf.

A13
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51-8145. H & Co.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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E 10648/107/31

OUT FILE

32

11th August, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to refer to your letters of 23rd and 24th July and your telegrams of 22nd and 24th July and 10th August, and to state that while careful consideration has been given to your case it is regretted that it is not possible to help you to reach Palestine under present circumstances.

I am returning herewith two letters addressed to you by H.M. Immigration Office and the Passport Office, which were enclosed with your letter of the 24th July.

*sent by
ppt*

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

B. A. B. Burrows

Mr. E.B. Taylor,
Missionary Hall,
10 Berne Hill,
London. S.E.24.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Registry
No. 8 10648/107/31

OUT FILE ✓

16/12/33

Despatched M. 17/3

17 Aug

4.
Draft

Sir,

I am etid to forward to you
herewith the two letters addressed
to you by the H.M. Immigration Office
& the Passport Office wh. shd. have
been enclosed with my letter of the
11th August & to express regret for
this omission.

I am etc. 4. 14: viii

(Signed) H.B. Burrows.

Telegram
Mr. E. B. Taylor.
Missionary Hall.
Etc.

sent from
Dept.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

RECEIVED
DI
16 AUG 1933
SENT TO
TYPE 16.8.33.
DELETED

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FO 371 / 68629

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10010/107-31

34

OUT FILE

S.M.L.

17th August 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Devlin to forward to you herewith the two letters addressed to you by His Majesty's Immigration Office and the Passport Office which should have been enclosed with my letter of the 11th August and to express regret for this omission.

I am,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) B.A.B. Diamond

Mr. Taylor
11, Albany Hill,
15, Essex Hill,
S.W.14.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-

FO

371

68629

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23

E

35

1948

PALESTINE

B

E 10668

13 AUG 1948

Registry Number E10668/107/31

FROM HAIFA (Mr Marriott)

No. 1/3/1

Dated 30 Jul 48

Received in Registry 13 Aug 48

General report on situation in Haifa and prospects of Jewish "Government".

Refers to FO letter E5905/107/31 of 24 Jun 48. Movement is very restricted, but Mr Marriott hopes to get about a little now that Mr O'Leary has arrived. He has no port pass and has difficulty in getting into airport; he is not yet allowed to go to Tel Aviv. Road passes in Haifa are to be done away with, and it appears that Jews do not want any more fighting but are prepared to fight if necessary. Their main wish, however, is to set their country in order, but they may require heavy subsidies from International Jewry to do this.

Last Paper

E 10668

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

CS 308

(Index)

Handwritten signature

Next Paper

E 12254

(Minutes.)

H.B. - 2878

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371/68623					
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26

E

E 12477

37

1948

PALESTINE B

Registry Number E 12477/107/31

FROM Mr. Gutch, C.O.
to Mr. Belth.

No. 75872/159/24.

Dated 22nd

Received in Registry 27th Sept.

Egyptian and Lebanese visas for ex-PACO non-Jewish staff in Cyprus.

Encloses copy of PACO, Cyprus tel: 297 asking that HMR at Cairo and Beirut should try and have the granting of these visas expedited.

If they cannot be obtained measures would have to be taken to send them back to Palestine via Amman.

Last Paper

E 12347

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

4/11 Cairo ch
Beirut ch
from E Dept 29 Sept
Comps B/150, Cairo
MS. Gutch CO.
30 Sept

(Action completed)

C. 20/9

(Index)

17/9/47

Next Paper

E 12703

(Minutes.)

Spoken to Mr Gutch. He agrees with the action attached - draft to Cairo & Beirut JB Sept. 28

34987

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference					
FO 371/68629					
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Form 2000

Extension

Communications on this subject should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
COLONIAL OFFICE
LONDON, S.W.1

and the following
Number quoted: 75872/159/24

38 enter

COLONIAL OFFICE

CHURCH HOUSE
GREAT SMITH STREET
S.W.1

22nd September, 1948.

E12477

Your Reference

Dear Beith:

As you know the Palestine Government set up in Cyprus a Palestine Accounts Clearance Office on the termination of the Mandate to close the accounts of the former Palestine Government and compute compensation benefits for former Palestinian members of the Palestine Government Service. This staff includes a very large number of Palestinians and the terms of their employment in Cyprus provided that they would be sent back to Palestine as soon as their employment ceased. There are some fifty non-Jewish members of the staff who have now completed their duties and these people wish to go to Egypt and the Lebanon. I enclose a copy of a telegram from the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office on this subject. You will see that applications were made by the Cyprus Government to Cairo and Beirut for entry visas for these people.

It would be most helpful if you could, as suggested in the telegram, ask His Majesty's representatives to make enquiries and find out whether visas will be accorded to these people. You will see from paragraph 3 of the telegram that if entry visas cannot be obtained for Egypt or the Lebanon, the alternative would be to repatriate these people to Palestine sending them via Amman, in which case transit visas through Transjordan would be required for them.

J.G.S. BEITH, ESQ.,
FOREIGN OFFICE.

/Do

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Reference: FO 371/68629					
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INWARD TELEGRAM

40

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair.

FROM PALESTINE ACCOUNTS CLEARANCE OFFICE, CYPRUS.

D. 18th September, 1948.
R. 18th " " 10.35 hrs.

P.A.C.O. No. 297.

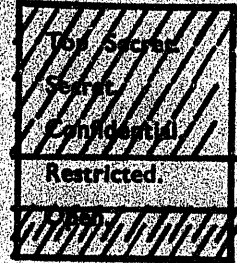
Following for Gutch. Begins.

If you consider intervention justified grateful you request Foreign Office ask Embassies concerned approach respective Governments expedite decision grant or refuse visas for certain non-Jewish staff this Office on termination appointment here. Delays already occurred which are meaning unnecessary retention staff here and consequent increased cost. Applications concerned were sent by Cyprus Government to Ministry Interior, Cairo under reference 401/18 on 6th and 17th August, 3rd, 4th and 14th September and to Ministry Foreign Affairs, Beirut under reference 796/2, on same dates except substitute 21st for 17th.

2. Numbers involved under fifty and no reason why individuals concerned should be indigent since they will have received abolition benefits in addition any salary saved while here.
3. Secondly and irrespective your decision regarding advisability above intervention please have separate request transmitted Amman because even if some of above-mentioned visas refused we can alternatively fulfil undertaking repatriate to Palestine if Transjordan Government will authorise Cyprus Government issue transit (repeat transit) visas to any non-Jewish P.A.C.O. staff recommended by this office.
4. Direct approach by this Office would not carry sufficient weight achieve purpose especially as fear we are regarded as nuisance. Ends.]

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Registry
No. E 12477/107/31



JGSB

Draft LETTER

Chanceries:

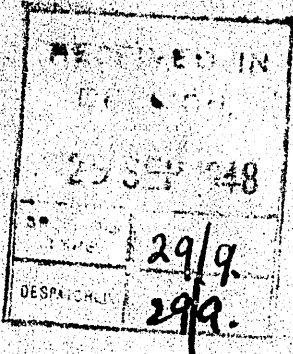
CAIRO.
BEIRUT

Copy to:-

BMEC, Cairo.
Mr. Gutch, C.O.

*Tel. of Sept. 19
Drafting last para.*

BY FIRST AIR BAG



OUT FILE FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

+ 2 c

(29th) September, 1948. *29/11*

Dear Chancery,

We send you herewith a copy of a telegram from the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office at Cyprus to the Colonial Office dated September 18th about a number of their non-Jewish staff who wish to return to the Middle East.

2. Would you kindly do your best to expedite a favourable reply to the application made by the Governor of Cyprus to the Egyptian Government. Lebanese You are no doubt already in touch with the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office but if not their address is Plastres, Cyprus and we should be grateful if you would communicate any progress to them direct.

3. If there appears to be none, or little, hope that entry visas will be granted please inform us as alternative arrangements would then have to be made via Transjordan.

4. We are sending a similar letter to the Chancery at Cairo and a copy to the British Beirut Middle East Office, Cairo.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

JB Sept. 28

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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FO 371 / 68629

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28

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

43

1948

PALESTINE

E

13572

Registry Number E13572/107/31

Desire of non-Jewish members of the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office to stay in Egypt.

FROM Mr. Mayell (Cairo) to Eastern Department No. 252/465/48

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 29 Sept. (E12477/107/31) It will be some time before a decision is reached by the Egyptian Government.

Dated 16 October 1948

Copied to P.A.C.O. Cyprus, and B.M.E.O.

Received in Registry 20 October 1948

Last Paper

R 12783

(Minutes.)

References

Copy C.O. Mr Gutch ref.

LT. 21x.

1.) Cairo Tel: 172 (S) 29/10.
shown to Mr. Gutch.

(Print)

2.) Jerusalem Tel: 600 (for P.A.C.O.) 8/11.

(How disposed of)

8) 25/10/48 (CO) (act) 26 Oct

J.M.M. - 9

(Action completed)

CS 26/10

(Index)

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper

E 14257

34967

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference -					
FO 371/63525					
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/SR

252/465/48

E 13572

BRITISH EMBASSY, 44

CAIRO.

16th October, 1948.

E

Dear Department,

Your letter No. E 12477/107/31 of 29th September about non-Jewish staff of the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office.

We are doing our best to expedite a favourable reply to applications made by non-Jewish members of the staff for permission to stay in Egypt, the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office having written on the 14th August asking us to intervene with the Ministry of Interior in the matter of obtaining the necessary entry visas.

On the 30th August the Ministry informed us that, before considering the applications, they wished to have detailed information concerning each individual, his full name, nationality, address of his family in Egypt, etc. This information we received from Cyprus on the 23rd September, and the applications have been since then under consideration by the Ministry.

It is likely to be some time yet before their decision in each case is known as the Egyptian authorities will wish to investigate the residential status and other matters regarding the references given, and we know from experience that investigations of this kind invariably take them weeks, and sometimes months.

It may therefore be considered advisable to make alternative arrangements for the disposal of the persons concerned.

We are sending a copy of this letter to the Chancery at Beirut, the Palestine Accounts Clearance Office Cyprus, and the British Middle East Office.

Yours ever,

A. L. Hayll

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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13572/107/31

45

En clair,
By Confidential Bag.

FILES

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir Ronald Campbell.
No. 172 Saving.

R. 1st November, 1948.

INDEXED

29th October, 1948.

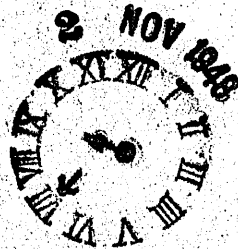
Repeated Saving to: Foreign Office and Beirut.

Addressed to P.A.C.O. Cyprus telegram No. 12 Misc.
Saving of 29th October, 1948. Repeated Saving to
Foreign Office and Beirut.

Your telegram No. 195/L Saving of 23rd September
enclosing list of Palestine Government officers.

Egyptian Ministry of Interior regret that they are
unable to approve admission into Egypt of the persons
listed with the exception of the Egyptian subject Camille
Bichara.

777.



*We presume this is
on the right file. EDW 2/21
Yes on 3/41*

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: -
FO

371

68629

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Cypher/OTP

13572/107/31

F
FILES

2
46

FROM JERUSALEM TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Acting British Consul General
No. 600

D. 8.04 a.m. 8th November 1948

8th November 1948

R. 9.00 a.m. 8th November 1948

Repeated to Haifa

CONFIDENTIAL

INDEXED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 600
of November 8th repeated to Haifa.

Grateful if following may be passed to Stewart,
Palestine Accounts Clearance Office, Cyprus.

I am passing your letter in which you request
me to facilitate the return of non Arab and non Jewish
ex-Palestine Government Officers from the Palestine
Accounts Clearance Office to Jewish-occupied Palestine,
to British Consulate General Haifa with request that
they take up the matter with Jewish authorities in
Tel Aviv. If the matter is urgent I suggest that you
approach Haifa direct. Your letter was only received
on Saturday.

Foreign Office repeat to Haifa as my telegram
No. 136.

JJJ



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference: -
FO 371/68629

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28A
1948

E
EASTERN DEPARTMENT

47

PALESTINE B.

E 14251

Registry Number E 14251/107/31

FROM Mr. King, Treasury
to Mr. Balfour.

No. ECA.560/109

Dated 3rd

Received in Registry 5th Nov.

Dr. Weizman's desire to take £3,500 from U.K. to Palestine.

file
copy of letter from B/England to Treasury asking views on this request, which exceeds regulations.
Asks for our early views.

Last Paper

E 13572

References

T 2950/63/378-49

T 20416/1382/378-48

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Att) Mr. King, Tky
from Mr. Balfour
20/11/48

Att) Mr. King, Tky
from Mr. Balfour
10 March

(Action completed)

Ch 20/11/48

(Index)

17/11/48

Next Paper

E 14625

(Min. 1/11)

I think that Weizmann stands out, on the background of violence, anti-British prejudice and claustrophobia in Palestine, as a moderate and well-meaning man, whom it would be unwise to alienate by needless pin-pricks. As President of the Provisional Council of State (not of the Government, - the Treasury letter is wrong), he is in a position of considerable influence. We ought perhaps to do everything reasonable to secure his good-will.

On the other hand:

- (a) There are many Jews of British nationality who are prevented by the regulations from transferring funds to Palestine and it might seem unwise to make an exception;
- (b) It is possible the concession might do harm in Arab circles, though the risk is slight;
- (c) It might not be advisable to underline the fact that W is still regarded here as a British subject and/or a resident in the U.K.;
- (d) It will not be clear until the elections are held (presumably about the end of this year) what, if any, his position in the State will be.

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6/11/48

On balance I think W's case should at first be dealt with normally as that of an emigrant, on the lines described in the two letters within; but if he emerges after the elections as the Head of the State, and especially if we later recognise Israel, then we should advise more liberal treatment.

D. Balfour
20/11

It is very evenly balanced. I am inclined to let him have the £3500 exceptionally.

BAB Burrows
22.11

I agree with
Mr Burrows

I agree
Roo24

W. H. Knight
22.11

Miss King informed by telephone. Letter, confirming, sent by Dept.

D. Balfour
25/11

Mr Burrows a.a.

BAB
22.11

1.) Mr. Drake, Treg to Mr. Balfour (E.C.A. 560/109)
25/2

Dft. reply
D.B.
7/3

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O.C.

Tel. No. : Whitehall 1234

Letter E 48



Your Reference

Treasury Reference **ECA. 560/109**



E 14251

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

3rd November, 1948

Dear Mr. Balfour,

You will see from the enclosed copy of a letter from the Bank of England that Dr. Weizmann, on taking up his duties as President of the Provisional Government of Israel, wishes to take £3,500 of his assets from this country.

and is regarded as a resident of this country

So far as the Home Office are concerned Mr. Jamieson tells me that Dr. Weizmann is still a British subject although he has sent back his British passport. For Exchange Control purposes, as he is a British subject, he would, on taking up permanent residence abroad, be granted, on application, emigration treatment, i.e. he could transfer £1,000 of his assets in four equal annual instalments. At the end of four years he would be redesignated as a resident of Palestine and be allowed ^{conditional} ~~continual~~ access to any non-sterling assets, the transfer of his current income arising in this country, together with income which has accumulated during the four years. The rest of his assets would be blocked but could be invested and the interest transferred to him.

Before replying to the Bank of England letter we should be glad to know whether, on political grounds, the Foreign Office wish Dr. Weizmann to have exceptional treatment.

It would be helpful if we could have an early reply.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) J. G. King

D. J. Balfour, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

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69

Reference. W/28 EC 285/RG.1.

BANK OF ENGLAND,
London, E.C.2.

1st November, 1948.

Dear Marshall,

We have received an application for the transfer of funds to Palestine on which, I think, I must seek your directions. It is for a remittance by Dr. Chaim Weizmann of the sum of £3,500, the purpose being stated as "to start my official duties as President of the Provisional Council of the State of Israel". We are informed that this money derives from the sale of Government securities registered in Dr. Weizmann's name and that he has a considerable further holding of securities. Application will be made to us in due course for the redesignation of his account.

We have very little information about Dr. Weizmann's residential status but he appears to have been living here at the outbreak of war and although he has been backwards and forwards since then and spent a good deal of time in the United States, he has always been regarded as a resident of the United Kingdom and his banking account has been conducted accordingly. The books of reference are not very instructive on his nationality but I see from a newspaper cutting of about a month ago that he and his wife had surrendered their British passports before taking the oath to the new Jewish State, so that he may well in our eyes still be regarded as a British subject.

If this is so, the normal way of dealing with his application would be to return it and tell him to apply for treatment as an emigrant on the £1,000 in four years scale which is now in force. In the circumstances, however, I think that you will wish to consider an alternative course after consultation, possibly with the Foreign Office.

May I leave it to you to let me know what you would wish us to do as soon as is possible, please?

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) E. T. Ruddle.

W. A.J. Marshall, Esq.,

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OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

25th November, 1948.

50

E 14251/107/31.
CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Miss King,

Please refer to your letter EGA 560/109 of November 3rd regarding Dr. Weizmann's application to the Bank of England, and excuse the delay in replying.

This matter was referred by me to higher authority. I now write to confirm what I told you on the telephone this morning : so far as the Foreign Office are concerned, it is considered desirable on political grounds to treat Dr. Weizmann's case as an exceptional one and to allow him to take out of the country the full amount of £3,500 for which he has applied.

Yours sincerely,

(D. Balfour).

Miss G.A. King,
H.M. Treasury.

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DRH.

Tel. No. : Whitehall 1234.



Your Reference E.14251/107/31.

Treasury Reference ECA. 560/109



TREASURY CHAMBERS,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

25th February 1949

Dear Balfour,

Will you please refer to your letter of the 25th November 1948 to Miss King on the subject of Dr. Weizmann.

As recommended by you, we allowed Dr. Weizmann to transfer £3500. The Bank now raise the question of what further transfers should be permitted and how his United Kingdom accounts should be treated. They suggest that to enable us to consider the matter we should first ask him to declare all his *accounts and security holdings in the Scheduled Territories.*

Before we reach a decision we shall have to have this information. But it appears that he has not yet asked for further transfers. The question has been raised by one of his United Kingdom banks who want to know how to treat his accounts. We have considered the matter here, and come to the conclusion that the best way to proceed will be to leave things as they are for the present, and wait for Dr. Weizmann to make a further move. This will mean that his bank accounts will continue to be treated as United Kingdom resident accounts and he will not be able to make transfers abroad from them. When he wants to do so, he will have to apply for permission, and this will give us an opportunity to ascertain his total assets and to decide on his future treatment.

I am putting you in the picture in case Dr. Weizmann should make his first approach to you. If he does so, perhaps you could explain to him that before we can decide what to do, we shall have to have a full declaration of his assets.

Yours sincerely,

D. Balfour Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

A. E. Drake
(A. E. DRAKE)

INDEXED

28 FEB 1949

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Registry
No. E 14251/107/31

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~~Restricted~~
Open

Draft
Mr A. E. Drake
Treasury

for
D. B. Alford

RECEIVED IN
D.I. 11.11.49
SERIALIZED 9/3
RECORDED 9/3

Conf. + no c
10 March 1949

9/1
529/4

OUT FILE

Dear Drake

Thank you for your letter
ECA 560/109 of 25th Feb
regarding Dr. Weizmann.

Should he approach the
Foreign Office a reply will be
given to him on the lines
~~as suggested~~
in your first paragraph and
you will be informed.

In this connection you
should note that the political
grounds for giving Dr. Weizmann
exceptional treatment are even
stronger than ever, following his election
as President by the Constituent

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Assembly of Israel and the de
facto recognition accorded to
the Gov^t of Israel by H.M.G.

It is probable that the Home
Office will now be informing Dr
Weizmann that in response to
a letter received ^{from} him in Sept
1948, he will no longer be
considered as a British subject.
I do not know ^{from your point of view} if this affects
his status as resident of the U.K.,
but you would do well to
consult the Home Office as to
present
his nationality.

~~I am sending a copy of this~~

Yours sincerely

D.B.
7/3

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

10th March, 1949.

OUT FILE

(E 14251/107/31)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Drake,

Thank you for your letter ECA 560/109 of the 25th February regarding Dr. Weizmann.

Should he approach the Foreign Office a reply will be given to him on the lines suggested in your final paragraph and you will be informed.

In this connexion you should note that the political grounds for giving Dr. Weizmann exceptional treatment are stronger than ever, following his election as President by the Constituent Assembly of Israel and the de facto recognition accorded to the Government of Israel by His Majesty's Government.

It is probable that the Home Office will now be informing Dr. Weizmann that in response to a letter received from him in September 1948, he will no longer be considered as a British subject. I do not know if, from your point of view, this affects his status as resident of the United Kingdom, but you would do well to consult the Home Office as to his present nationality.

Yours sincerely,

A.E. Drake, Esq.,
Treasury.

(D. Balfour)

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<p>Registry Number E 14625/107/31 FROM F.O. minute (Mr. Beith) No. - Dated 12th Nov. Received in Registry 15th</p>	<p><u>Conversation Mr. Beith- Mr. Linton on British visa procedure for Israel, 11th November.</u></p>	
<p>Last Paper E 14251</p>	<p>(Minutes.) <i>See within</i></p>	
<p>References</p>		
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed) <i>CS 1</i></p>	<p>(Index) <i>[Handwritten marks]</i></p>	
<p>Next Paper 15003 <i>G/162/31-cc9</i></p>	<p>34987</p>	

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14625

VISAS FOR THE JEWISH AREA. 55

Mr. Linton of the Jewish Office called on November 11th to press us to revise our position in regard to the granting of visas ~~on~~ British passports. He said that his authorities were most concerned at the security disadvantages inherent in the present system of granting laissez-passer on separate bits of paper. They were not at all concerned about trying to establish recognition and he could assure us that they would not regard the stamping of British passports with Jewish visas as affecting the question of recognition in the slightest degree.

I explained again to Mr. Linton the difficulties in the way of modifying our attitude. British passports were the property of the Government and we ~~would~~ ^{would prefer} to follow the existing procedure during the present period of non-recognition. Mr. Linton pointed out with some force that the present arrangement did not prevent British passports from being stamped with a Jewish seal, because they were so stamped as soon as anyone arrived in or left the Jewish area. Moreover, he understood that Jewish missions in other countries were not allowed the same latitude in granting laissez-passer as the London office were. To the best of his knowledge they would have to insist on stamping passports.

I told Mr. Linton that I could not hold out any great hope that we would be able to change our attitude but that I recognised that the last point he made was a good one. I ~~would~~ take the matter up again and let him know the result.

I should be grateful in the first instance for the views of the Treaty Department and Passport Office on the ^{last} argument used by Mr. Linton. It has considerable force but it seems to me, illogical though it may be, that for us to accept the principle of Jewish official visas being placed on ~~British~~ passports in London is a different thing from accepting what is done to passports by force-majeure in the Jewish area.

*British*Treaty Dept.
Passport Office*J. G. S. Beith*(J. G. S. Beith)
12th November
1946.

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Minutes.

I cannot see how we can logically maintain an objection to the stamping of Israeli endorsements on British passports and at the same time introduce an arrangement whereby an additional passport will be issued gratis to a British subject wishing to travel to Arab countries (as well as to Israel) to help him over the difficulty of entering a country which will not recognize a passport bearing an Israeli endorsement.

L. D. Fisher
L.D. FISHER
20/11/48

Provided it is quite certain that our non-objection to the Israel authorities granting visas on British passports does not in any way affect the question of the recognition of Israel by H.M.G., I agree with the Treaty Dept. view.

Presumably, if we agree to Mr. Linton's suggestion, visas for Palestine would only be granted on ^{British (U.K.)} passports endorsed as valid for Palestine by ^(U.K.) British authorities.

O. Hubbard
24.11.48

file
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attached.

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I agree with Mr. Beith that the issue of whether or not Jewish visas are being placed in British passports by force-majeure by Jewish representatives in foreign countries is really irrelevant to what we are to allow the Jewish representatives to do in this country; and I think the question at issue is really whether we allow Jewish representatives here to affix Jewish visas to British passports. This implies some degree of recognition. This is, I think, a question which must in the first instance be decided by Treaty Department and the Legal Advisers.

I have asked the Library to rake out any back papers which may help with this subject and this they have done, but I am afraid that the attached papers, excepting for T16665/16665/378 of 1937 and Sir E. Beckett's Minute therein, are not really of much assistance. Even this paper is to a certain extent unhelpful as (1) it deals primarily with the question of whether the affixing of British visas to Spanish insurgents' passports implied some degree of recognition of the Spanish insurgents and, if so, recognition as what, and (2) it appears that General France's agents in this country were allowed functions which included the normal functions of Consuls for the protection of their respective subjects.

The Jewish representative here has not, so far as I know, been allowed any similar functions; but it is possible that these papers may help the Legal Advisers and Treaty Department in reaching a decision on this rather difficult question.

L. G. Thirkell.
(L. G. Thirkell)
9th December 1948.

1. Mr. Evans.
2. Treaty Department.

We should value Mr Evans' Comments
J. S. Beith
Dec. 10

The mere indorsement of a Jewish visa or other official stamp on a British (U.K.) passport does not in itself affect the question of recognition of Israel by H.P.G. I think it would be otherwise however if we were to give our official sanction to the practice.

The activities of Jewish authorities in Palestine and of Jewish representatives in other countries are beyond our control: if they choose to indorse our passports with their stamps and visas

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rather than dealing with the question of the implications of the affixing of insuscept visas to British passports

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Treaty Dept. again 5)

I agree with Mr BND
Evans. Have you any
further comments before
I reply to Mr Linton on
these lines

Jus Bitch
Dec. 17

No

Fin
27/12/48

I told Mr Linton when
he spoke to me today. He
seemed dissatisfied but
did not protest unduly
JB Jan 5

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